

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks. Claims 1, 3-5 and 7-8 are in the application. Claim 1 has been amended to include the elements of claims 2 and 6, now canceled. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner objected to claim 6. Claim 6 has been canceled.


The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by *Simon '828* and rejected claim 3 over *Simon* in view of *Moran et al.* Claims 4 and 5 were rejected over *Simon* in view of *Clark*. The Examiner stated that claim 6 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the elements of claims 2 and 6, now canceled. It is now believed that the claims are patentable over the cited references, because none of the cited references teach or suggest the arrangement of the straps.

as claimed in amended claim 1. Early allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
MARILOU OWENS ET AL. (CIP)

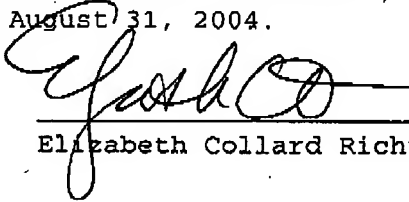
COLLARD & ROE, P.C.
1077 Northern Boulevard
Roslyn, New York 11576
(516) 365-9802
ECR:jc


Allison C. Collard, Reg.No.22,532
Edward R. Freedman, Reg.No.26,048
Frederick J. Dorchak, Reg.No.29,298
Elizabeth Collard Richter, Reg.No.35,103
Attorneys for Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

Fax No. 703-872-9326

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile-transmission to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 31, 2004.


Elizabeth Collard Richter